

BIBLICAL SEPARATION: ITS IMPORTANCE AND IMPLICATION FOR THE GOSPEL

A resolution of the Nebraska Association of Regular Baptist Churches

October 13, 2009

WHEREAS the glorious Gospel message is “the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes” (Romans 1:16; 1st Peter 1:23);

AND WHEREAS the Gospel message of the vicarious and substitutionary death, the burial, and the visible bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is the core truth of the historical Christian faith without which there is no Gospel of salvation (1st Corinthians 15:1-4);

AND WHEREAS separation from apostasy and unbelief is a clear and unequivocal commandment of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Apostles (Matthew 15:13-14; 2nd Corinthians 6:14-18);

AND WHEREAS such separation has been a Biblical distinctive which has characterized both the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches and the Nebraska Association of Regular Baptist Churches since their beginnings;

AND WHEREAS the purpose of our associations is “to maintain a testimony to the truth of the Gospel and to the purity of the Church; to raise a standard of Biblical separation from worldliness, modernism, and apostasy; to emphasize the Biblical teaching that a breakdown of divinely established lines between Bible believers and apostates is unscriptural and to be voice repudiating cooperation with movements with attempt to unite true Bible believers and apostates in evangelistic and other cooperative spiritual effort”;

AND WHEREAS these above stated truths are being compromised by New Evangelical* churches, leaders, and parachurch organizations which fellowship and even cooperate with those who tolerate “damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them” (2nd Peter 2:1), such as evangelists making deals with leaders of Romanism to secure a crowd, or ministers and evangelists preaching a non-offensive “gospel-lite- of mere “relationship” rather than “repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts 20:21), or having known apostates given positions of honor at ecumenical crusades (2 John 10-11);

AND WHEREAS believers are fervently exhorted “that you should earnestly contend for the Faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers in fellowship with the Nebraska Association of Regular Baptist Churches, meeting for our 52nd Annual Fall Bible Conference at Grace Baptist Church of Grand Island, Nebraska on October 12th and 13th, 2009, recommit ourselves and our churches to espouse and practice the Biblical commands to separate from apostasy and not to endorse or cooperate in spiritual endeavors with evangelicals who violate the clear commands of Scripture.

** New Evangelical is a term coined by its advocates describing a deliberate methodology of dialog, infiltration, and compromise with non-evangelical churches, leaders, and parachurch organizations in venues of evangelism and ministry. It is characterized by toleration of, accommodation with, and compromise in doctrinal error which has resulted in the watering down of the Gospel message and the contamination of sound doctrine.*